

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7506

BILL NUMBER: HB 1216

DATE PREPARED: Feb 20, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 19, 2001

SUBJECT: Character Education.

FISCAL ANALYST: David Hoppmann

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9559

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires a school to include in the school's strategic and continuous school improvement and achievement plan a provision that includes the integration of good citizenship instruction into current curriculum instruction.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The Department of Education (Department) would incur no additional expenses as a result of this bill.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) School corporations that have not adopted good citizenship instruction within its schools could experience an increase in administrative expenses. The specific effects are currently indeterminable, would depend upon local action, and could possibly be mitigated by Department resources listed below in the Background section.

Under current law, beginning July 1, 2001, schools are required to establish strategic and continuous improvement plans which lay out school objectives over a three-year period. Schools are required to submit such plans to their respective superintendents no later than March 1 of the school year before the year of implementation for approval. (An initial plan must be established by June 1 of the school year before the year of implementation. A plan is established when written evidence of approval is attached to the plan.)

In accordance with this bill, schools would be required to add the integration of good citizenship instruction to one of the eight plan components already required under current law.

Background- The Department estimates that a large percentage of school corporations already provide good

citizenship instruction at both the primary and secondary levels. However, it is also estimated that schools at the primary level (i.e., elementary schools) offer such instruction more readily.

Public Law 203-1995 required the Department of Education to develop a comprehensive plan of good citizenship instruction, and to submit that plan to the Indiana General Assembly. In response to Public Law 203-1995, the Department created "*Partners for Good Citizenship: Parents-Schools-Communities*". This resource guide (which provides curriculum suggestions for grades K-12) was distributed to approximately 1,000 Indiana teachers via Department-sponsored workshops, as well as to all 294 school corporations.

In 1999 the Department, in partnership with three school corporations, was awarded a three-year grant for Character Education from the United States Department of Education. A statewide clearinghouse website on citizenship and character education was established to serve both partner and nonpartner schools, as well as other interested stakeholders. The clearinghouse website is maintained on the Department's web page listed below in Information Sources.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: School Corporations.

Information Sources: Terry Spradlin, Department of Education (317) 232-6671; Department of Education Clearinghouse Website: <http://ideanet.doe.state.in.us/charactered/welcome.html>